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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 13 January 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.,
of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, H.E. Mr. Dobrica Cosić (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter from the President of Yugoslavia addressed to the Secretary-General

In his letter of 26 December 1992, the Yugoslav Army Chief of Staff advised the UNPROFOR Commander of massive violations of the no-fly zone in the former Bosnia and Herzegovina by Croatia and of a number of abuses of Cazin Airport for purposes of delivering weaponry and equipment to the Muslim forces.

However, with reference to your reports to the Security Council of 29 December 1992 and 4 January 1993, I have noted with regret further and increasing abuses of Cazin Airport. Of the 25 unauthorized flights carried out from 23 December 1992 to 3 January 1993 that you reported to the Security Council, 17 flights were to or from Cazin Airport, of which 7 from or to Pleso Airport, 5 from or to Pula Airport, while as to the remaining 5 flights there is no information available related to their take-off and landing points. It was noted on a number of occasions that the aircraft violating the ban had been camouflaged and carried no prescribed markings.

In the light of the importance attached by the United Nations and yourself to the observance of the no-fly zone in the former Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the worrisome implications of its possible abuse to serve as a pretext for the use of force with unforeseeable consequences, I should like to assure you that the competent authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and I personally are devoting our utmost attention to this matter. In this regard, I wish to highlight the following facts:

1. Since the imposition of the no-fly zone and the deployment of United Nations observers at airports in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, not a single Yugoslav Army aircraft has violated the ban. All allegations to that effect have been refuted by documentary evidence. I wish to reassure you that we shall continue to observe the ban strictly and seek to clarify all possible cases under suspicion by working closely with the competent United Nations authorities.

2. In our communications with General Nambiar as well as in the present letter to you we have referred solely to the facts contained in your reports to the Security Council as established by the United Nations observers on the ground. We intend to follow the same practice in the future as well. We have no intention of making any false accusations nor of giving this problem dimensions it does not have. Truth is our sole concern.

3. At the same time, the Croatian side has been violating the no-fly zone unhindered as if aiming to trigger the use of force against the Serb people.

4. The Muslim side, consistent with its overall position held ever since the outbreak of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina - which it is the most responsible for - has made, through its representative to the United Nations,

false accusations against the Republic of Srpska and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia regarding the alleged violations of the no-fly zone. The Permanent Muslim Representative to the United Nations set out in his letter of 29 December 1992, among other untruths, that the Serb and Montenegrin forces had carried out 24 military flights from 23 to 27 December in the area of Srebřenica alone although the competent United Nations authorities had not traced a single flight in that area.

You share my view, I trust, that at this crucial juncture it is most important to do our utmost to familiarize the United Nations Security Council, the international public and all the concerned international leaders with the actual scope of the problem on our hands and the share of responsibility borne by each of the parties involved, and that it is essential in view of the above to preclude misinformation and unsubstantiated allegations. Could you therefore kindly pass the present letter on to the United Nations Security Council as an official document.

Dobrica COSIĆ
President